

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128304 TOSEC 020251

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEWT, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN EMIGRATION

FOR HARTMAN FROM MCCLOSKEY

1. AT HIS REQUEST, WE CALLED ON SENATOR RIBICOFF TODAY TO DISCUSS ROMANIAN EMIGRATION POLICY. RIBICOFF STRESSED THAT HE WISHES TO SUPPORT THE AGREEMENT AS A MEANS OF SHOWING SOME SOLIDARITY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA. "I APPRECIATE THE PRESSURES ON ROMANIA FROM MOSCOW AND FROM THE ARAB STATES." "HOWEVER," HE SAID, "BUT I HAVE GOT TO HAVE SOMETHING TO HANG MY HAT ON. IF ONLY WE COULD GET SOME MOVEMENT IN THE NEXT THREE OR FOUR WEEKS, I CAN SUPPORT THE AGREEMENT. I NEED TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT THERE HAS BEEN MOVEMENT."

2. RIBICOFF POINTED OUT THAT, IF HE SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT
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IT, SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE WOULD DEFINITELY GO ALONG

WITH IT AND HE DOUBTED WHETHER JACKSON, JAVITS, OR OTHERS WOULD EFFECTIVELY OPPOSE THE AGREEMENT. HE WAS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE FIGURE FOR MAY (60 ACCORDING TO B'NAI B'RITH) AND SAID, AT THIS RATE, THE ANNUAL TOTAL NUMBER OF JEWS GOING TO ISRAEL WILL ONLY BE 900 IN 1975 COMPARED TO 3400 IN 1974. HE REITERATED THAT THE ROMANIANS "HAVE GOT TO GIVE ME SOMETHING TO WORK WITH IN THE NEXT THREE OR

FOUR WEEKS."

3. WE POINTED OUT TO RIBICOFF THAT CODEL HUMPHREY/SCOTT, OF WHICH HE WILL BE A MEMBER, IS CONSIDERING A STOPOVER IN BUCHAREST EN ROUTE BACK HOME FROM MOSCOW LATE JUNE. RIBICOFF AGREED THIS WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT IDEA BUT REITERATED IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HAVE HAD SOME CONCRETE MOVEMENT BY THE ROMANIANS IF SUCH A VISIT IS GOING TO BE PRODUCTIVE IN TERMS OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT. INGERSOLL

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